

## Chapter 8

### Talking about daily routine in Urdu (Present Simple Tense)

This will look at the present simple tense. This tense is used to talk about routine activities, e.g. what you do every day, every week, often etc. E.g. I wake up at 7am and then have breakfast is an example of a sentence in the present simple tense. This tense is also used in a few other cases, which we will discuss at the end.

But first, let's get started and learn how to form the present simple tense of any verb in Urdu.

#### How to form the present simple tense from any verb

STEP 1: Choose your verb and identify its infinitive. In Urdu all infinitives end in "na".

STEP 2: Delete the ending „na“ to get the verbs ROOT form

To go	Ja	Jana	جا	جانا
To eat	Kha	Khana	کھا	کھانا
To write	likh	Likhna	لکھ	لکھنا

STEP 3: Add the correct ending to the root form.

male, singular people/objects	Ta	تا
female, singular people/objects	Ti	تی
male, plural people/objects	Te	تے
female, plural people/objects	Tin (with nasalization)	تیں

e.g. he goes	for male, singular people/objects	Jata	جاتا
e.g. she goes	female, singular people/objects	Jati	جاتی
e.g. they (all male) go	male, plural people/objects	Jate	جاتے
e.g. they (all female) go	female, plural people/objects	Jatin	جاتیں

STEP 4: Add the pronoun & correct form of to be „hona“ ہونا

I am	Me... hun	میں..... ہوں
He/she/it is	Wo/ye... hai.	وہ/ یہ ..... ہے۔
You (informal) are	Tu ....hai.	تو ..... ہے۔
We are	Ham ..... hain.	ہم ..... ہیں۔
You (plural and respected) are	Ap... hain.	آپ ..... ہیں۔
They are	Wo/ye.... Hain.	وہ/ یہ ..... ہیں۔
You (singular) are.	Tum... ho.	تم ..... ہو۔

When we put all the steps together, it looks like this:

I work (male).	Mai kam karta hun	میں کام کرتا ہوں۔
I work (female)	Mai kam karti hun.	میں کام کرتی ہوں۔
You work (singular or plural)	Ap kam karte hain.	آپ کام کرتے ہیں۔
He/She works.	Wo kam karte hai.	وہ کام کرتی ہے۔
They (female or male) work.	Ye kam karte hain.	یہ کام کرتے ہیں۔
You (singular, informal) work	Tum kam karte ho.	تم کام کرتے ہو۔

Now that you know how to make the form, let's have a look at exactly how to use the present simple. There are three uses. I already mentioned the first one in the introduction: for routine activities. This is also the most common use and the easiest.

Here are a few example sentences.

I have breakfast at 8am. (male speaker)	Mai 8 baje nashta karta hun.	میں 8 بجے ناشتہ کرتا ہوں۔
You work from 9-5. (for singular and plural)	Ap 9 baje se 5 baje tak kam karte hai.	آپ 9 بجے سے 5 بجے تک کام کرتے ہیں۔
They drink chai every day. (for a group of males)	Wo roz chai pite hai.	وہ روز چائے پیتے ہیں۔

## 2) Common facts/ statements

You can also use this tense for common facts and statements. This means this that are usually true and (most likely) won't change at all (or not that quickly).

The earth is round.	Duniya gol hai	دنیا گول ہے۔
Islamabad is in Pakistan	Islamabad paksitan main hai.	اسلام آباد پاکستان میں ہے۔
Fish live in lakes and rivers.	Machliya jhilon aur deriyaun main rehti hain.	مچھلیاں جھیلوں اور دریاؤں میں رہتی ہیں۔
In the UK, all children go to school.	UK main tamam bache school jate hai	یوکے میں تمام بچے اسکول جاتے ہیں۔

## 3) Imminent actions

And lastly, the present simple tense can also be used for imminent actions. This means for actions that are about to happen. This is very often used in spoken Urdu. If you want to sound like a native speaker, then make sure to use this in your daily speech. Let's have a look at some examples:

(on the phone) A: Where are you? B: I will be there in 5 minutes.	Ap kaha hain? Mai 5 minute mai ata hun.	آپ کہاں ہے؟ میں ۵ منٹ میں آتا ہوں۔
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In this situation, two people are on the phone and the first speaker is asking the second where he/she is. The second speaker is about to arrive and therefore uses the present simple tense (mai 5 minute mai ata hun), instead of the future. Literally it would be translated as "In 5 minutes I arrive". In English, we would say "I am arriving" or "I will arrive" instead.

Let's look at one more example:

A: Can you send this email now? B: Yes, I will send it now.	Ap ye email abhi send karen. Ji, abhi karti hun.	آپ یہ ای میل ابھی سینڈ کریں۔ جی، ابھی کرتی ہوں۔
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In this situation the first speaker is asking somebody to send an email right now. The second speaker responds that he/she will do it right now. Again, this is an imminent action, because the speaker is about to send the email. In Urdu, the present simple tense ("karti hun") is used. The literal translation would be: Yes, I now do. This sounds pretty strange in English, as we would use the future (I will do that now) or progressive tense (I am doing that now) instead. In Urdu, however, this is what native speakers would use.

That's all! If you want more practice and explanation, our grammar book is available for [purchase in our shop](#).

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